

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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R 121200Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7024

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 4052

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: XGDS-2 (DECLAS 1-1-99)

TAGS : PDEV, PINT, AO, PGOV

SUBJECT : MPLA-UNITA TALKS

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 4042

1. ON DEPARTURE FOR LUSAKA DECEMBER 11, MPLA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO TOLD PRESS HE EXPECTED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR ANGOLA TO BE FORMED IN JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY, 1975. HE SAID FINAL DETAILS WILL BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THREE LIBERATION GROUPS (MPLA, FNLA, AND UNITA) AND THE PORTUGUESE THIS MONTH OR IN JANUARY, POSSIBLY IN LUSAKA OR ALGIERS, AND THAT THE PARTIES ARE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH LISBON ON THIS.

2. NETO SAID THAT AFTER A SHORT VISIT TO LUSAKA, HE
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WOULD CONTINUE ON TO MPLA'S LIBERATED AREAS IN ANGOLA.

HE DENIED PREVIOUS REPORT THAT TRANSFER OF MPLA-UNITA TALKS TO LUSAKA WAS DUE TO PRESENCE THERE OF MAJORITY OF MPLA CENTRAL COMMITTEE; MOST MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ARE INSIDE ANGOLA.

3. HEAD OF OAU AFFAIRS DIVISION OF TANZANIAN FONOFF, E. MWASAKAFYUKA, COMMENTED TO EMBOFF AND VISITING AMBASSADOR MARK FROM BURUNDI DECEMBER 12 THAT IN HIS VIEW NETO HIMSELF WAS CHIEF STUMBLING BLOCK TO UNIFICATION OF ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. NETO COULD BROOK NO OPPOSITION OR PERMIT ANY COMPROMISE; HE DEMANDED 100 PERCENT LOYALTY AND AGREEMENT WITH HIM ON EVERYTHING, AND HE HAD FAILED TO USE HIS UNDOUBTED STRENGTH AND POPULARITY IN ANGOLA IN LEADERLIKE MANNER IN ORDER TO COME TO TERMS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (FNLA AND UNITA) WHICH ALSO HAD GENUINE FOLLOWINGS. SAVIMBI HAD GONE A LONG WAY TO MEET NETO'S VIEWS, AND WAS EVEN WILLING TO CONSIDER COMING INTO MPLA. THE REAL QUESTION WAS WHETHER NETO NOW REALIZED NECESSITY OF ACCEPTING COMPROMISE IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE UNITY; IF SO, AND IF HE REACHED AGREEMENT WITH HOLDEN AND SAVIMBI, THE CHIPENDE AND DE ANDRADE FACTIONS OF MPLA, AND FLEC, WOULD NOT POSE ANY SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS TO PROGRESS TOWARDS ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE.

4. COMMENT: THIS BLUNT CRITICISM OF NETO, FROM OFFICIAL OF GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS BEEN ONE OF HIS STRONGEST PUBLIC BACKERS, FURTHER SUGGESTS THAT TANGOV HAS DONE ALL IT CAN TO PRESSURE MPLA LEADER INTO ACCEPTING COMPROMISE AGREEMENT WITH OTHER GROUPS. BUT MWASAKAFYUKA DID NOT APPEAR TO HAVE GREAT CONFIDENCE THAT SUCH PRESSURE WOULD NECESSARILY PROVE SUCCESSFUL.
CARTER

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